

1400, 20 July 1965

VULNERABILITY ESTIMATE FOR MISSION C405C

CONCLUSION:

There are no known surface-to-air missile defenses on this route capable of interfering with Mission C405C. Latest Air Order of Battle does not show any MIG-21's in Formosa Strait area.

GENERAL:

The MIG-15, 17, and 19 do not present a threat to the U-2 at 70,000 feet. Of these three fighter types, none can cruise supersonic. The MIG-19 can exceed Mach 1, perform a dynamic climb to approximately 62,000 feet and cruise subsonic, steady state at 59,000 plus or minus 1000 feet. The MIG-19 does not have sufficient power to perform an effective ZOOM maneuver.

The MIG-21 has the capability of intercepting the U-2 at 70,000 feet by performing a ZOOM maneuver and launching an AA-2 Sidewinder type IR missile.

AIR ORDER OF BATTLE FOR FORMOSA STRAIT:

There are three airfields in this area pertinent to Mission C405C. They are Canton, Hsingning and Fuchou. MIG-19's are located at Canton, Hsingning and Fuchou.

A request for a SAM search thirty nautical miles either side of planned track has been levied on NPIC. The results were negative and copies of the request and results may be found elsewhere in this report.

REQUIREMENT: STATED IN COMOR 25/142 OF FEB 1965.

APPROVED BY USIB 3 MARCH 1965.

REQUIREMENT FOR IMMEDIATE COVERAGE OF
28 TARGETS IN SOUTH CHINA AND SUBSEQUENTLY
OBTAIN WEEKLY COVERAGE OF A REPRESENTATIVE
ONE QUARTER OF THESE TARGETS. IN ADDITION,
USIB ON 12 MAY APPROVED URGENT COVERAGE OF
PING HSIANG AS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TARGET
IN SOUTH CHINA (COMOR D-25/164).

APPROVAL: 303 COMMITTEE APPROVED NRO FORECAST FOR
JULY 1965.

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